

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 MAY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq was "forced" to "withdraw" from "hundreds" of square km of territory in the Faqqeh operational sector captured by Iran during a "violent" clash late 21 May, according to Tehran radio's Arabic service citing a military report, which also claimed that Iraq sustained over 1,500 casualties in the fighting. A later radio report citing a military announcement asserted that Iran launched an attack early 22 May on Iraqi positions inside Iraq at the "other end" of the Faqqeh region, and liberated "scores" of square km of Iraqi territory in that area. A Tehran radio report said Iran is in full control of the strategic axes in that region and surrounding areas, according to another military report. For Iraq's part, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio asserted that Iraq thwarted an Iranian counterattack in that area during which Iran sustained a "large number" of casualties and lost three tanks.

Further north, in the Hajj 'Umran area, a military statement cited by IRNA claimed that Iran is in "full control" there, and reported the downing of two more Iraqi helicopters. On the other hand, the Iraqi communique contended that an Iranian counter-attack in that area was repulsed and that the Iranians suffered "massive" losses.

In continuing fighting in the Mehran area, a 22 May Tehran radio report claimed that 300 Iraqis were killed or wounded when Iran opened "heavy" fire on Iraqi positions there which, it asserted, brings the number of Iraqi casualties in 5 days of fighting in that area to 2,300. The radio alleged that two Iranian offensives into the "heart" of Iraqi positions late 20 May and early 21 May resulted in the destruction of 15 Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers and heavy Iraqi casualties. The radio added that three subsequent Iraqi counterattacks early 21 May were repulsed during which the Iraqis "retreated" and lost eight tanks, two of which were captured. The radio and IRNA reported Iranian air raids on Iraqi positions in that sector 21-22 May. In contrast, the Iraqi communique contended that at least 520 Iranians were killed in fighting there and claimed that an Iranian F-4 plane was downed as it attempted to bomb Iraqi positions, an allegation denied by an Iranian military spokesman cited by IRNA who asserted that no Iranian planes were lost over the Mehran area.

Israel-Egypt

Jerusalem radio noted Egypt's "inflexible and uncompromising" position at the Tabah talks, while a later radio report announced Egypt's rejection of the compromise proposals put forward by the United States. Cairo radio reported that the Egyptian delegation was expected to depart for Cairo 22 May.

Egypt-Jordan

In his recent talks with Jordan's King Husayn, Egyptian Presi-

dent Husni Mubarak proposed a plan for "Egyptian-backed Palestinian self-rule" in the Gaza Strip, according to "informed sources" cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST*. "Well-informed sources" asserted that the idea "angered" Husayn, while "other sources" cited by the paper speculated that the plan was "initiated" by "key" PLO officials as a means of pressuring Jordan in light of that country's recent "harassment" of PLO activists in Jordan and the West Bank.

Lebanon

Twenty-eight persons were killed and 101 were injured in "indiscriminate" shelling in the Beirut area, according to Beirut radio reports. Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Hizballah centers in the Al-Biq'a were subjected to "intensive" Syrian shelling.

In other fighting, Beirut radio announced that "violent" clashes erupted during Israeli attacks on two villages in southern Lebanon. An Amal Movement statement on the fighting cited in a subsequent radio report claimed Israel suffered 10 casualties while Lebanese "resistance groups" sustained a "number" of dead and wounded. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that an IDF soldier was wounded and two terrorists were killed in a clash north of the security zone.

Syria

Israeli Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal disclosed that Syria is building a nuclear power plant similar to the one at Chernobyl, according to Jerusalem radio.

Saudi Arabia

The Jeddah paper *UKAZ* cited by Riyadh radio explained the reasons behind Saudi Arabia's decision to rescind its request to acquire U.S. Stinger missiles, including the Kingdom's desire not to "burden" any party, such as the "friendly" United States, with a project that may bring about a "gain" for other parties who employ all means to "exploit circumstances" for their own good, which the paper asserted is the method used by the "Zionist lobby" inside that country.

PLO

"Informed Palestinian sources" cited by the Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD* reported by *QNA* asserted that the Palestinian "National Unity Conference" planned to be held in Algiers in late May has been postponed. The sources attributed the postponement to the PFLP's failure to inform Algeria of that group's agreement to attend the talks, but nevertheless speculated that the meeting would be held in July.

Iran-France

French President Francois Mitterrand was given a message from his Iranian counterpart by Iranian Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri during a meeting in Paris, IRNA reported. Although the talk noted the existing differences between the two countries, the agency disclosed Mitterrand's desire for an improvement in bilateral relations.

Iraq-USSR

Soviet official Konstantin Katushev departed for Moscow following talks with Iraqi officials and the signing of four agreements and a protocol, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported.

Qatar-Bahrain

AL-ITTIHAD carried a report 22 May cited by WAKH in which "informed Gulf sources" asserted that the Qatari-Bahraini dispute over Fasht al-Dibal Island has entered its "final stages" and divulged that Gulf "observers" are to arrive in the two countries within the next 2 days to "supervise" the resolution of the dispute. According to a report in the same paper 21 May and cited by Abu Dhabi radio, an "informed Gulf source" revealed that the "first clause" of the agreement reached to resolve the dispute was to be implemented that same day.

DRA-Pakistan

The DRA severely condemned "baseless" Pakistani allegations that the latter shot down an Afghan Air Force plane and hit another 17 May, according to a BAKHTAR statement. The agency claimed that the two aircraft "suffered damage" during "mopping operations" against "sold-out elements" inside the DRA, and denied that the damage resulted from any encounter between Afghan and Pakistani aircraft.

Pakistan lodged a "strong" protest with Afghanistan over a shooting incident north of Chaman during the night of 14-15 May in which an Afghan refugee was killed; a 17 May shelling incident near Parachinar in which a soldier was wounded; and the 19 May shelling of two villages in Khurram Agency during which four Pakistanis were killed and two others wounded.

Sudan

The clandestine SPLA radio announced that the SPLA attacked and subsequently occupied Tali District near Mundri in Equatoria administrative area.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS****South Asia**

Vol VIII No 099

22 May 8686

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i**AFGHANISTAN**

AFP: Government Denies Aircraft Shot Down in Pakistan	C 1
BAKHTAR Counters Pakistan Claims	C 1
BAKHTAR Political Observer Views Ziaul Haq's Regime	C 1
Mujahidin Attack Soviet Garrison, Down 2 Planes /SPA/.....	C 2

PAKISTAN

Protest Lodged With DRA Over Attack on Border Areas	F 1
Further Reportage on Visit of PRC's Fu Hao	F 1
Noorani, Fu Hao Dinner Speeches	F 1
Calls on Prime Minister	F 1
PRC Envoy Hosts Reception	F 1

OTHER COUNTRIES**NEPAL**

Former Minister Says Government Interfered in Polls /Delhi/.....	G 1
AFP: Air Link Talks With PRC Officials Held	G 1

SRI LANKA

President To Brief India's Dixit on Jaffna 'Bombing' /Delhi/.....	G 1
Prime Minister on Emergency, Dam Burst Inquiry	G 1
Gelignite Found at Police Station; Civilians Killed	G 2

IRAN

Further Reportage on Rahmani Visit to Libya	I 1
Conveys Khamene'i Message to Al-Qadhdhafi	I 1
Charge in Khartoum Meets Sudanese Official	I 1
Further Reportage on Mo'ayeri Visit to Paris	I 1
Meets Prime Minister Chirac	I 1
Meets With President Mitterrand	I 1
Further on Mitterrand Meeting	I 2
Reportage on Recent Kurdish Operations	I 2
3 Military Bases Attacked	I 2
Battle Successes Detailed	I 2
Clash With Iraqi 'Agents'	I 2
Iraqi Claim of Downing F-4 Fighter-Bomber Denied	I 2
Air Force Ready To Hit Targets Deep Inside Iraq	I 3
15 Young Iraqi POW's Transferred Behind Lines	I 3
Claim Commanders Killed in Hajj 'Umran	I 3
Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq	I 3
800 Iraqi Casualties in Mehran	I 3
Total of 32 Iraqi Helicopters Downed	I 3
Correspondent Reports From Mehran	I 3
Mehran Fighting Continues	I 4
2,300 Iraqi Casualties in Mehran	I 4
Iraqis Unable To Move Casualties	I 4

Communique No 2,477	1 4
Fighter-Bombers Hit Iraqi Infantry	1 5
Iraqi Positions in Mehran Bombed	1 5
Iraqi Attack in Faqqeh 'Crushed'	1 5
'Hundreds' of Iraqis Killed	1 5
Faqqeh Operational Region Liberated	1 5
Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ on Faqqeh	1 5
Tehran Arabic on Faqqeh Operation	1 6
Tehran Arabic: Further on Faqqeh	1 6
New Successes in Fakkeh Area	1 6
Iraqi Areas in Faqqeh 'Liberated'	1 6
Opposition Paper Critizes U.S. Policy Towards Regime (Paris ARA 6 May).....	1 6

AFP: Government Denies Aircraft Shot Down in Pakistan
BK211718 Hong Kong AFP in English 1715 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 21 (AFP) — Afghanistan denied Wednesday assertions that Pakistani jets had shot down an Afghan aircraft said to have intruded into Pakistan on Saturday.

The official Afghan news agency BAKHTAR acknowledged that two Afghan planes had been damaged "at the hands of counter-revolutionaries" while on a mission to "eliminate" them. But it described the Pakistani charge that the dogfight had taken place inside its air space as "baseless" and "aimed at appeasing Washington."

The incident took place inside Afghanistan and no Afghan plane intruded into Pakistan, BAKHTAR said in a statement relayed by Radio Kabul, monitored here.

The agency did not identify the type of plane that was damaged.

Pakistani officials said one Soviet-built warplane was downed near the city of Parachinar, about 16 kilometers (10 miles) inside Pakistan, and another was damaged and flew back into Afghanistan, its tail section flaming.

The Afghan jets were said to have been fired on by U.S.-built Pakistani F-16s using air-to-air missiles. Reporters on Monday were shown small pieces of debris with Russian markings said to have been part of the wreckage.

It was the first time Pakistan has claimed to have shot down an intruding Afghan warplane since the Soviet Union intervened in Afghanistan in 1979.

BAKHTAR Counters Pakistan Claims

LD211650 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Kabul, 21 May (BAKHTAR) — On 18 May this year the Pakistani authorities, through a news broadcast, made allegations that the Air Force of that country had attacked two Hunter aircraft of the DRA which were engaged in a flight over the Parachinar areas and as a result one of the aircraft was shot down and the other was severely damaged.

The BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY was instructed, in reply to this groundless allegations of the Islamabad militarist authorities, to state:

This is not the first time that the militarist regime of Pakistan has resorted to such groundless claims against the DRA. By resorting to such fabrications under the direct instructions of the Washington administration, the militarist regime of Islamabad is trying to accuse the DRA of violating international norms and regulations, defame its peace-seeking policy and, through utilizing such pretexts, justify its interference against the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country in the eyes of the world.

The fact of the matter is, that what happened is completely different from the fabrications made up by the Pakistani author-

ities. In order to explain how the Pakistani authorities have altered the facts of the event and publicized it, we would like to explain the truth of the incident:

On 17 May this year two aircraft of the DRA Air Force, in the course of the mopping operations against the subservient and sold-out elements inside the country, suffered damage. The damage suffered in no way emanated from their violation of the borders of the DRA [as received] or any fighting operations between DRA aircraft and that of Pakistan.

It should be pointed out that, by resorting to such baseless allegations, the Pakistani militarist regime authorities can no longer distort world public opinion to justify the blatant intervention of that country against the DRA and defame the peace-loving policy of the DRA, which is consistently trying to solve the situation around Afghanistan.

In pursuing the principles of good-neighborliness, the DRA, while severely condemning the groundless allegations of the Pakistani authorities, once again draws to the attention of that regime's authorities the fact that resorting to such baseless allegations will only result in aggravating relations between the two countries.

BAKHTAR Political Observer Views Ziaul Haq's Regime
LD210752 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 20, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: Ziaul Haq's administration is going to dismiss Fakhar Imam, speaker of the so-called Parliament and intends to appoint somebody else to the position.

Fakhar Imam is one of the independent members in the Parliament of Pakistan, who was elected as speaker of the house after defeating a representative of Ziaul's regime. The real cause of his dismissal is the fact that he gives a chance to the members of the house for raising their voice against Ziaul Haq's regime.

The military regime not only has not improved the socioeconomic conditions of the Pakistani people during the past over eight years but has converted the territory of Pakistan to a military base of Washington's administration for the suppression of the progressive movements of Pakistan and other countries in the region. Presently, the U.S. rapid deploy forces and centcom are stationed in that country.

The U.S. administration is rendering to Pakistan its biggest military aid in order to draw it further to the aggressive and strategic policy of Reagan's administration in southwest Asia.

Ziaul Haq's regime contrary to the will of Pakistan people have set up the military camps for the Afghan counter-revolution as well as for the Sikh secessionists of India in the territory of that country.

The people of Pakistan have several times raised their protest voice against the cruel policy of Ziaul Haq and against the intervention of the U.S. imperialism into the internal affairs of Pakistan and the anti-Afghani policy of Islamabad regime. They

in their protest demonstrations, have demanded Ziaul Haq to resign.

The demonstrators, the political figures and the progressive forces of Pakistan have repeatedly called upon the regime to withdraw the Afghan counter-revolutionaries who have disrupted the peaceful life of the people.

The people of Pakistan understand that the terrorist policy of Islamabad regime has dangerous consequences and that is why they are continuing their struggles against Ziaul's regime till it is overthrown.

Mujahidin Attack Soviet Garrison, Down 2 Planes

GF211511 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, 21 May (SPA) — The Afghan Mujahidin attacked a Soviet garrison in Parwan Province north of Kabul on 13 May, killing 9 Soviet troops, one an officer, and wounding 16 others. The sources added that during this attack four tanks and armored vehicles were destroyed, and the mujahidin downed two Soviet planes in the (Zazay) region in Paktia Province when the occupation planes heavily strafed the region on 10 May. One of the Mujahidin leaders said that the Soviet fighters used new kinds of bombs when raiding the Mujahidin positions.

Protest Lodged With DRA Over Attack on Border Areas

*BK211735 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
21 May 86*

[Text] Afghan Armed Forces opened fire with 12.7-mm machine guns on the night between the 14th and 15th of this month in the village of Murdar Baghicha in the northern outskirts of Chaman. As a result, an Afghan refugee girl was killed.

Afghan Armed Forces also shelled on Saturday at 1030 the area of Kotri, Bara Hissar, and (Shadul Kar) frontier corps post, about 16 km northwest of Parachinar in Khurram Agency. As a result, a soldier was injured.

Afghan forces fired 25 rounds of artillery last Monday at 0700 which landed in villages (Tuperzai) and (Alizai), approximately 1 km north of Teri Mangal frontier corps post in Khurram Agency. As a result, four Pakistani nationals were killed and two injured. Besides, a few houses were damaged.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform his authorities that if such attacks did not cease, the entire responsibility would rest on the Kabul authorities.

Further Reportage on Visit of PRC's Fu Hao**Noorani, Fu Hao Dinner Speeches**

*BK210420 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
21 May 86*

[Text] The Chinese good-will delegation led by Fu Hao attended a dinner in Islamabad last night hosted in his honor by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani.

Speaking on this occasion, Zain Noorani said Pakistan and China share the same views on the world situation and are making efforts to establish a just global system free from any sort of economic (?disparity) and from political domination of one country on another. He said this sort of cooperation not only benefits the people of the two countries but also promotes peace and solidarity in the region and the world.

In his speech, Mr Fu Hao said that, after the establishment of diplomatic relations, the roots of friendship between the peoples

of the two countries have been further strengthened. He said the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries are based on the principle of peaceful coexistence.

Both countries are peace-loving, oppose war, and maintain close relations with each other on international affairs.

He said that, while sincerely executing the recognized norms of good-neighborly relations, we have honored each other's freedom and sovereignty and have supported each other on the basis of these principles in the face of difficulties and pressure from any other country.

We have promoted bilateral cooperation based on mutual benefit and equality.

Calls on Prime Minister

*BK211530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
21 May 86*

[Text] The 7-member Chinese good-will delegation led by Fu Hao, vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress, called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi today.

Fu Hao conveyed PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang's message of good wishes to the prime minister and also noted the existing cordial relations between Pakistan and China.

The prime minister asked the leader of the PRC delegation to convey his best wishes to the Chinese premier. He said that mutual respect, goodwill, and close friendship existing between China and Pakistan are a source of happiness and satisfaction for the people of the two countries.

PRC Envoy Hosts Reception

*BK220345 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
22 May 86*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo attended a reception hosted by the Chinese ambassador in Islamabad yesterday evening on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China.

NEPAL

Former Minister Says Government Interfered in Polls

*BK171415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 17 May 86*

[Text] In Nepal Rashtriya Panchayat [parliament] elections 35 results from 28 districts have been declared so far. The former water resources minister, Mr Pashupati Rana, has won the Sindhupal Chowk District with a record of 51,000 votes.

Counting of votes is in progress in the remaining district.

The former home minister, Mr Jog Mehar Shrestha, is trailing behind his nearest rival by over 15,000 votes.

Mr Shrestha, who had held various ministerial positions in the partyless Panchayat system, has alleged large-scale interference by the government machinery in the poll. Talking to newsmen in Katmandu today, he said the interim government which was formed to hold the general election in Nepal in a free and fair manner, has failed in its task.

AFP: Air Link Talks With PRC Officials Held

BK190559 Hong Kong AFP in English 0544 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Katmandu, May 19 (AFP) — Chinese and Nepalese airline officials are holding talks here aimed at arranging the earliest possible start to direct flights between Nepal and Tibet, an official source said Monday.

Officials from the Civil Aviation Administration of China [CAAC] and Royal Nepal Airlines (RNAC) were holding talks here Monday to discuss inaugurating the direct flights to boost tourism for both states, the official added.

The five-member Chinese delegation, led by CAAC Deputy International Relations Chief Lu Guang Hwa, had already held an hour-long meeting with Secretary of Tourism and RNAC Chairman Birendra Nath Khujeli after arriving in Katmandu Sunday. The delegation also had talks Sunday with RNAC Managing Director Bali Ram Singh on the working procedures for the proposed air service.

The Chinese delegation told reporters that China would give its full support to developing tourism to and from Tibet and said they hoped this week's talks would yield positive results. They are due to hold a series of talks with Nepalese officials and are to return to China Saturday.

SRI LANKA

President To Brief India's Dixit on Jaffna 'Bombing'

*BK220321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
22 May 86*

[Text] President Jayewardene will have talks with the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr J.N. Dixit, within the next couple

of days to clear the misunderstanding between India and Sri Lanka over the recent incidents in Jaffna.

The Sri Lankan Cabinet spokesman, the minister of state, Mr Ananda Tissa de Alwis, told newsmen after the Cabinet meeting yesterday that there was no bombing or attacks on civilians in the Jaffna area. He said the Sri Lankan Armed Forces have not fired a single shot at the hospital. It charged that the slight damage was caused to the hospital by an explosion of a militant bomb.

The Jaffna citizens' committee has written to the government agent in Jaffna to inspect the hospital and shops in the bazaar, which was hit by the aerial attack, and see for himself how damage was inflicted on civilian targets. They have also appealed for an immediate supply of oxygen cylinders to Jaffna hospital because there has been almost no oxygen in the hospital for the last 1 month.

The Sri Lankan Government yesterday also denied the bombing and strafing of Velvettiturai. A communique issued by the National Security Ministry said a representative of the Velvettiturai citizens' committee had resorted to this information campaign on behalf of the terrorists.

Residents from Velvettiturai who fled the area after bombing told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, that at least 40 houses have been badly damaged in the air attack. One temple, one bank, and one school have been almost destroyed.

The situation in Jaffna peninsula remained quiet last night but with sporadic gunfire. Troops have also been withdrawn from the Kays sector.

Prime Minister on Emergency, Dam Burst Inquiry

*BK211120 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 21 May 86*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Premadasa has told the parliament that a special presidential commission of inquiry would be appointed to inquire into the recent breach of the Kantalai dam. The head of the commission will be a justice of the Appeal Court of Sri Lanka.

The prime minister was speaking during the debate on the extension of the emergency by a further month, which was later passed by a two thirds majority in the house.

Referring to the terrorist movement, the prime minister said that terrorism was aimed at ruining democracy and the freedom of the people. The prime minister recalled that the leader of the opposition and his party criticized Mr Premadasa when he disclosed information on the terrorist campaign launched by terrorist leaders operating in India. However, they have now realized the correct position.

Referring to a statement made by Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike in a radio program which was meant for the Sinhalese community in Australia, the prime minister said that Mrs Bandaranaike had said that a general election should be held to ensure a Tamil

representation in Parliament. She had stated that the clause for the acceptance of the country's unitary status by the MP's as provided by the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution should be removed.

But he recalled that the Sri Lanka Freedom Party had even criticized the government for delaying the amendment.

It also voted for the amendment.

Gelignite Found at Police Station; Civilians Killed

*BK211136 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 21 May 86*

[Text] The Criminal Investigation Department has recovered a large haul of gelignite sticks. Four hundred and fifty sticks of

gelignite have been found at the police post terrace yesterday.

LANKA PUWATH, quoting police sources, said that a stick of gelignite had been produced before the government analyst. Police say that remaining explosives would be destroyed.

Marxist-oriented separatist terrorists have abducted nine civilians and brutally killed all of them, security sources told LANKA PUWATH.

The group of civilians, consisting four men and five women, were first reported missing on 18 May from (Mornova) in Trincomalee area.

Security sources said later it was reported that the terrorists abducted and killed all of them.

Further Reportage on Rahmani Visit to Libya

Conveys Khamene'i Message to Al-Qadhdhafi
LD210834 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, May 20n IRNA — Head of the Basij unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) currently here on an official visit Tuesday submitted a written message of IRGC commander, Mohsen Reza'i to chief commander of the Libyan Armed Forces, brigadier general Abu Bakr Yunis.

During the meeting, the Libyan commander referred to the solidarity between the Islamic revolution of Iran and the Libyan revolution. He also pointed out that Libya stood beside the Islamic revolution in its support for Islamic movements of the world. Therefore, he added, the United States and its allies have been trying to damage the two revolutions because the two revolutions have jeopardised interests of imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries of the region.

The Libyan commander Abu Bakr said that the presence of the Iranian delegation in Tripoli was a measure to prove that the Islamic nations are after expanding their joint efforts to counter imperialism and to obtain their rights.

Referring to the U.S. attack on Libya, he said that raising issues such as terrorism was merely a pretext to push Libya to a passive position.

Drawing a parallel between the U.S. attack on Libya and its defeat in Tabas in Iran, Hojjat-ol-Eslam Rahmani said that similarity of the two attacks indicated that Iran and Libya were pioneers of anti-imperialist campaign.

Hojjat-ol-Eslam Rahmani referred to the Iraqi defeat in Valfajr-8 operations launched in Al-Faw last February and said that military experts assisting Iraq were stunned by Iran's assault. He also briefed General Abu Bakr of the recent Iranian victories in the battle fronts.

Hojjat-ol-Eslam Rahmani arrived here Monday heading a delegation and met with commander of the Libyan popular forces, Colonel Mahdi al-'Arabi on Tuesday. He is carrying a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i of Iran for the Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Charge in Khartoum Meets Sudanese Official
LD191958 Tehran IRNA in English 1818 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 19, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran's charge d'affaires to Khartoum met with member of Sudanese ruling council Ahmad Osman Mirghani in Khartoum Monday. Expansion of bilateral relations in different fields was discussed in the meeting.

Meanwhile, in Tehran Monday outgoing Cuban ambassador to Tehran Luis Marisy Figueredo discussed mutual cultural ties with Higher Education Minister Mohammad Farhadi.

Further Reportage on Mo'ayeri Visit to Paris

Meets Prime Minister Chirac
LD220622 Tehran IRNA in English 0618 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 22, IRNA — Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri, currently here heading a delegation, met French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac Wednesday and presented him a message from the Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

At the end of his 1½-hour talks with the French premier, Mo'ayeri told reporters that his meetings with French officials have been held in friendly atmosphere.

On issues discussed with Chirac, he said that the talks included subjects which had been topics of discussions between officials of the two countries since two years ago. The subjects, he added, were repayment of a one-billion dollar loan to Iran, France's impartiality in the Iraqi-imposed war, anti-Iranian propaganda by France, and fugitive Iranian counterrevolutionaries in France.

On the French hostages in Beirut, Mo'ayeri said that the Islamic Republic of Iran was against hostage taking which was also rejected by Islam. He stressed that Iran would take any measures within its power, wherever in the world, to oppose hostage taking.

Mo'ayeri and his accompanying delegation arrived here Tuesday for a three-day official visit to hold talks with French officials on the normalization of bilateral relations.

Meets With President Mitterrand
LD220707 Tehran IRNA in English 0700 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Paris, 22 May, IRNA — Deputy Prime Minister for political affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri Wednesday met with French President Francois Mitterrand and handed over a message of Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i.

President Mitterrand expressed hope that the Iranian delegation upon its return to Iran would carry a message of friendship and hope in the benefit of the two countries. He stressed that the existing relations between the two countries were not at a satisfactory level, adding that relations which were moving towards separation should be directed to solidarity and unity. Therefore, he added, the bilateral ties would become deeper and stronger everyday. The president stressed that he would personally follow up the improvement of mutual relations.

Meanwhile, Mo'ayeri referred to factors straining mutual relations and reiterated the necessity of solving the existing problems. He said that France's refusal to repay to Iran a one-billion-dollar loan was one of the major financial disputes between the two countries. Moreover, he added, France's overall support for the Iraqi regime in its imposed war and also for the fugitive Iranian counterrevolutionaries were among other problems.

Mo'ayeri, heading a delegation, is on a 3-day official visit to France. He arrived here Tuesday. The trip is made following the

last April visit of a ranking French delegation to Tehran to normalize mutual relations.

Further on Mitterrand Meeting

GF220625 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
22 May 86

[Text] Yesterday afternoon during a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, the political deputy of our country's prime minister, who is currently on a 3-day visit to Paris as the head of a delegation scheduled to meet with French officials, delivered a written message from Mr Seyyed 'ali Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meeting the French president expressed his thanks for the reply to a message sent to Mr Khamene'i by the general secretary of the French Foreign Ministry last April. He expressed his hope that on their return to Iran the high-ranking Iranian delegation would be carrying messages of friendship and hope concerned with relations between the two countries. He added that relations between the two countries are currently not at a proper level and therefore, not satisfactory. He noted that the relations, which have been moving toward separation, must be guided toward unity until ties between these two ancient and great countries of France and Iran become stronger and deeper each day. He also emphasized that, as well as following up on the circumstances of relations between the two countries by the French Government, he himself would pursue improvement in bilateral relations.

During the meeting, while enumerating the stances of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the reasons why relations between the two countries became strained, our country's deputy prime minister emphasized the need to overcome the present problems in bilateral relations and in deepening relations.

Yesterday, Mr Mo'ayeri also met with French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, and delivered a written message from Prime Minister Musavi. Following a 90-minute meeting with Mr Chirac, he told reporters that his meetings with French officials took place in a completely friendly atmosphere.

Reportage on Recent Kurdish Operations

3 Military Bases Attacked

LD180944 Tehran IRNA in English 0922 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., May 18, IRNA — Iraqi Muslim revolutionary Kurds attacked three Iraqi military bases in Zakhu, Dahuk Province north of Iraq, and took over one of them. Reports reaching here from inside Iraq said that during the attack launched last week, a number of Iraqi forces were killed, six of them captured, and large amount of munition was seized.

Meanwhile Iraqi helicopters shot and killed 20 fishermen in Dukan region, Irbil Province northeast of Iraq, last week. Reliable sources from inside Iraq said that during the attacks five other fishermen of the region were injured. The Iraqi regime has

forced the arrested fishermen to spread the rumour that Iranian planes have attacked them, the reports added.

Meanwhile a number of villagers in the area were arrested on charges of cooperating with Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries, and four revolutionaries were martyred at Abu Gharib prison by the Iraqi regime, the reports said.

Battle Successes Detailed

LD201032 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., May 20, IRNA — Several Iraqi soldiers and NCO's were killed and an armoured vehicle and an artillery piece belonging to the Iraqi Ba'athist forces were destroyed in a desperate Iraqi attack against Muslim revolutionary Kurds in Dahuk Province, North Iraq, late last week. Reports from inside Iraq said that the Iraqi forces, sustaining loss of forces and munition, were forced to retreat leaving their dead soldiers. The Iraqi Kurds seized considerable amount of munition from the Iraqi forces, the report added.

Clash With Iraqi 'Agents'

LD211344 Tehran IRNA in English 1315 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 21, IRNA — Muslim Iraqi Kurdish Freedom fighters (Peshmergas) liberated a military base and captured 24 soldiers in a heavy attack in Kani Morvarid on May 5, according to reports reaching from Iraq.

Meanwhile other Peshmergas clashed with Iraqi Government agents in village of Bribikeh and Shahr-Zur region early this month killing two of them. After the clash Iraqi reinforcement raided the village and killed three 60- and 70-year old men.

Since the Iraqi Ba'athist regime came to power in 1968 it has conducted a reign of terror in Iraq, especially against its Kurdish minority.

In related reports, the first group of Iranian Muslim guerrillas from Lorestan Province departed for the battlefields Wednesday. The company-size group have experiences in guerrilla warfare.

Iraqi Claim of Downing F-4 Fighter-Bomber Denied

LD220554 Tehran IRNA in English 0520 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — Iran Thursday denied Iraqi allegations of having downed an Iranian fighter-bomber in the central battle fronts Wednesday.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) said that Iraqi claims "were mere lies". He added that Iranian fighter-bombers returned safely to their bases after successfully bombing enemy positions in Mehran.

An Iraqi military spokesman allegedly claimed that Iraq on Wednesday downed an Iranian F-4 bomber in the central fronts.

Air Force Ready To Hit Targets Deep Inside Iraq*LD170756 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 17 May 86*

[Text] Tehran, May 17, IRNA — The Iranian Air Force Pilots are able to hit any target deep inside Iraq any time the officials deem it necessary, an air Force pilot said in a television interview here Friday night.

Captain Mahmud Eskandari who participated in the raid on Iraqi oil installations in Kirkuk Wednesday which leveled it to the ground, said that the attack on Kirkuk oil refinery, the largest in Iraq was in retaliation for the Iraqi attacks on Iranian oil installations. The refinery, he told viewers, is of great strategic importance and located next to the Kirkuk air base equipped with modern defence system.

The destructive raid on Kirkuk once again proved falsity of the Iraqi claims and that of the Western Media on the superiority of the Iraqi Air Force, Colonel Eskandari added. Until the Wednesday attack the Iraqi regime considered Kirkuk refinery as the most invulnerable, he added.

Flight Lieutenant Zamani describing the attack on Kirkuk as 100 percent destructive reiterated that Iran will not leave the Iraqi attacks on Iranian residential areas and economic centers, unanswered. He said that the Iranian pilots who carried out the mission all returned safely to their bases.

15 Young Iraqi POW's Transferred Behind Lines*LD191659 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 19 May 86*

[Text] Orumiye, West Azarbayjan Prov., May 19, IRNA — Another 15 Iraqi prisoners of war among them three youths of 15 to 17 who were taken captive in Hajj 'Umrān 100 kms northeast of Iraqi provincial center of [words indistinct] over the past few days were transferred to the Iranian side of the war fronts Monday. The POW's confessed that they had been forced by the Baghdad regime to join the army.

Claim Commanders Killed in Hajj 'Umrān*LD191942 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 19 May 86*

[Text] Orumiye, West Azarbayjan Prov., May 19 IRNA — Hajj 'Umrān is yet another grim reminder of Iraq's losing war against Islamic Republic of Iran according to Iraqi POW's taken captive in the said region. Iraqi POW Sabah Kuyesh told IRNA that some Iraqi commanders had been killed in Hajj 'Umrān region. He said that he was glad to have saved his soul.

Another POW, Fifteen year old 'Ali Husayn Chandi of Division 884 said that the Baghdad government forcibly sent him to the war fronts. He was previously a student at (Thaneviybdianeh). POW Chandi said that many young adults mostly students have been impressed into military service.

Other POW's said that heavy fire of the Muslim combatants of Iran had crippled the Ba'thist forces and that Iraqi forces had sustained heavy losses in their aborted attack.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq**800 Iraqi Casualties in Mehran***LD211016 Tehran IRNA in English 0952 GMT 21 May 86*

[Text] Mehran, Ilam Prov., May 21, IRNA — The Islamic Forces of Iran in an attack on Iraqi troops in Mehran, Iran-Iraq border, mopped up a section in northern Mehran and killed or wounded 800 Iraqis, Tuesday night. During the attack the Iranian combatants destroyed 15 enemy tanks and personnel carriers as well as a number of armoured vehicles, and captured a number of Iraqi forces.

Meanwhile three personnel of an Iraqi tank surrendered to the Muslim forces of Iran Tuesday night. The fierce fighting is continuing in Mehran operational theater.

Total of 32 Iraqi Helicopters Downed*LD211133 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 May 86*

[Text] According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters the center of the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while keeping every movement of the Zionist enemy under control and bringing his positions under fire, the combatants of Islam in the Hajj 'Umrān sector shot down two helicopters of the defeated Iraqi forces in (Harena) valley, deep inside enemy positions, at 0930 today, bringing the total of Ba'thist helicopters shot down during the past few days' clashes in the Hajj 'Umrān sector to 32.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced: The fast flying Iranian Air Force pilots bombed Iraqi positions in the sector north of (Al-Imarah) at coordinates of 32 degrees 26 minutes north and 47 degrees 10 minutes east at 1130 today.

Correspondent Reports From Mehran*LD211226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 May 86*

[Telephone report by Central News Unit correspondent from the Mehran operational sector]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The warriors of God's army, in continuation of their courageous battle against the Iraqi aggressors, last night and this morning, in the course of two victorious infiltration operations, attacked the heart of positions, fortifications, and emplacements of the Zionist enemy on the Mehran front and succeeded in completely destroying two infantry and armored battalions; 50 percent of another commando battalion was also destroyed. During these victorious operations, the armored divisions of the corps of monothism set ablaze and destroyed 15 tanks and personnel carriers, 6 vehicles, and several light and heavy mortar launchers of the Iraqi aggressors. Thanks to intense fire from the combatants of Islam, one enemy artillery unit was destroyed and their battery fire was silenced along several axes.

Several correspondents from the Central News Unit who closely witnessed the bravery of the ever-victorious forces of Islam reported: The accuracy and speed of the forces of Islam, backed by divine succor, brought great victory to the selfless warriors of the corps of monotheism in these operations.

During these infiltration operations which were launched with the coordination of the selfless mobilization forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Reconstruction Jihad workers, the combatants of Islam taught a new lesson to Iraq's shattered forces.

Following the Iraqi forces defeat last night, Saddam's defeated commanders regrouped the remnants of their forces and with the backing of several units of Iraq's Presidential Guards and launched three counterattacks this morning. But each time they were confronted by the forces of Islam and, after suffering losses and casualties, retreated. In the course of repulsing today's enemy counterattacks, six Saddamist tanks were destroyed, two of their tanks were captured intact, and another group of the Iraqi aggressors were taken prisoners by the forces of Islam.

On the other hand, the brave pilots of the corps of monotheism, flying several of their fighter-bombers at 0520 and 0540 this morning, bombed armored positions and concentration points of the enemy infantry and artillery units in the border sector of Mehran and, after inflicting deadly blows on the enemy, returned to their bases safely and victorious.

Mehran Fighting Continues

LD211917 Tehran IRNA in English 1911 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Ilam, Ilam Prov., May 21, IRNA — Iran's counter offensive on Iraqi forces in Mehran Wednesday destroyed six Iraqi tanks and several military vehicles. Two tanks and a howitzer were also seized from the Iraqis.

During the operation 16 Iraqi soldiers among them two officers were captured by Iranian combatants and transferred behind the fronts.

According to reports Iraqi artillery battalions 53, 22 and tanks from brigade 59, first battalion of brigade 606 of division 16, and first battalion of infantry brigade 94 were totally destroyed. Fighting still continues in the region.

2,300 Iraqi Casualties in Mehran

LD221124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] With their heavy fire on enemy armor and infantry positions in the Mehran sector, the combatants of Islam killed or wounded more than 300 enemy forces, bringing the total over the past 5 days of battle in the region to 2,300.

An IRNA report from the Mehran operational sector says intensive fire of the Islamic forces yesterday brought down two Iraqi helicopter gunships.

Iraqis Unable To Move Casualties

LD211245 Tehran IRNA in English 1145 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Hajj 'Umran, Liberated Iraq, May 21, IRNA — An Iraqi sergeant taken captive here Wednesday revealed that Iraqi commanders have ordered their units not to transfer wounded soldiers behind the fronts until clashes end. Sergeant Muhammad 'Attiah said many wounded soldiers have died of bleeding near their positions and their comrades had to witness their gradual death because of the orders. The Iraqi POW also disclosed that Colonel 'Abd al-Razzaq, the commander of Infantry Brigade 433 of the 23th Division had been killed by a hand grenade.

Al-Ta'min commando battalion was annihilated and its personnel routed at the beginning of the clashes in Hajj 'Umran, he said.

Communique No 2,477

LD211733 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 21, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed Iraqi troop positions in northern Iraqi city of Al-'Amarah at 32.26 north and 47.10 east coordinates at 11-30 hours (08:00 hours GMT) Wednesday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them, according to a military communique here Wednesday.

The Joint Staff communique number 2477 says that Iranian fighter bombers had earlier pounded concentration centers of Iraqi troops and armored units twice Wednesday morning. The planes after successfully carrying out their missions and inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy returned to their bases safely.

The communique says that Iranian naval units intercepted and inspected six cargo ships sailing under foreign flags near the Hormuz Strait Monday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying any war-related goods for the Iraqi regime.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, exchange of artillery fire and mortar fire continued sporadically Tuesday in which five tanks, two trucks, three munitions dumps and three observation posts of Iraqi forces were destroyed and a number of enemy soldiers killed or wounded.

Muslim forces of Iran recaptured a strategic height and Reza-Abad border outpost near Mehran early Wednesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on Iraqi forces and forcing them to retreat, says the communique.

The military communique says that Iranian Muslim combatants checked transfer of Iraqi armored units in Panjwin Tuesday and Wednesday.

In Sumar, the communique says, an Iranian patrol unit in a clash with Iraqi patrols killed or wounded a number of them, seized some military hardware of theirs and routed the rest of them.

Several Iraqi patrol units attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Qasr-e Shirin and Salman-Koshteh were forced to flee after sustaining casualties by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants, says the communique.

The communique says that an undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and ten enemy gun emplacements and observation posts together with eight light and heavy vehicles destroyed in the western fronts Tuesday. Iranian gendarmerie forces smashed an Iraqi offensive in Bayat early Tuesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on them and forcing them to retreat, according to the communique. In Nahr-Anbar, the communique says, Islamic forces of Iran pounded an Iraqi patrol unit and checked enemy engineering and transport operations. Meanwhile, Iraqi long range artillery fire on the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, Tuesday damaged 18 houses and part of a hospital.

Fighter-Bombers Hit Iraqi Infantry

LD220631 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — The Iranian fighter-bombers hit Iraqi infantry and armoured group concentration positions in Mehran operational theater, west Iran on Iran-Iraq border, Thursday morning. A joint staff statement released here said that the bombing was carried out at 05:15 local time (01:45 GMT) and inflicted heavy casualties and damage on the Iraqi forces. The Iranian fighter-bombers all returned safely to their bases, the statement said.

Iraqi Positions in Mehran Bombed

LD221129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports that at 0515 today, Air Force fighter-bombers of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed the Zionist enemy's armor and infantry concentrations in the Mehran operational theater. After inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy, they all returned safely to their bases. The report says that at 1640 yesterday, Air Force fighter planes of the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out their third bombing raid on enemy positions in the Mehran sector.

Iraqi Attack in Faqqeh 'Crushed'

LD220725 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — The attack of the Iraqi forces in Faqqeh Operational theater, launched since the past few days, was crushed by the Islamic Forces of Iran.

'Hundreds' of Iraqis Killed

LD220926 Tehran IRNA in English 0809 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Faqqeh Region, May 22, IRNA — The Iraqi attack on Faqqeh region, launched during the past few days, was crushed by the Islamic forces of Iran who made the defeated enemy to

flee the area Thursday. The Islamic combatants of Iran by employing tactical measures and through their heavy artillery fire exerted unbearable pressures on the Iraqi enemy to the extent that forced the disorganized enemy forces to flee the battlefield.

Hundreds of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded and those who fled the operational theater left behind a large amount of weaponry which were seized by the Islamic forces of Iran.

A military commander in the operational theater told IRNA that the Iraqi forces were to be completely surrounded by the Iranian forces. But, he added, in order to avoid complete destruction, the Iraqi forces evacuated the positions they had occupied and retreated. He said that since the area is sandy and Iraqi forces retreated the battlefield hastily, they sustained heavy casualties. But, the commander noted, the exact figure of the casualties cannot be estimated yet since the Iranian forces are still chasing the fleeing Iraqi troops.

Faqqeh Operational Region Liberated

LD220955 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0908 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, dear listeners, please pay attention. On the basis of the latest report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center for combined operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, following the last-ditch effort of the forces of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime on various fronts and the heavy defeat they suffered in the operational sectors -- particularly in the Hajj 'Umran region -- the mighty warriors of Islam, in the course of an intense clash last night with the enemy forces in the Faqqeh operational theater, by pounding the enemy positions, liberated hundreds of kilometers of the occupied territory and forced the defeated enemy to retreat and flee the area.

The mighty warriors of Islam also succeeded in totally wiping out several battalions of enemy troops and in killing or wounding more than 1,500. In the course of last night's clash in the strategic region of Faqqeh, the region and its surrounding villages were cleansed from the filth of the presence of the enemy elements, and the combatants of Islam destroyed a large number of their weapons, including dozens of tanks and personnel carriers. Some were taken intact as booty.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ on Faqqeh

LD220958 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0926 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to the latest report we just received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters: On the basis of a report just received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center for combined operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the brave warriors of the corps of Islam defeated

the enemy in the Faqqeh operational sector and succeeded in fully establishing themselves along the strategic axes of this region and its surrounding areas. During a lightning attack on enemy positions this morning, our forces captured dozens of kilometers of enemy territory on the other side of Faqqeh and raised the proud flag of dear Islam in that area.

One of the operational commanders of the corps of Islam in the Faqqeh sector said in an interview with our reporters that the remarkable victories of the mighty combatants of the corps of monotheism are indescribable.

He added: The mighty forces of the Islamic Revolution have now fully consolidated themselves in the Faqqeh operational sector and are controlling all enemy moves and have inflicted heavy blows on the enemy, thanks to the undiminishing divine support and prayers of our God-seeking ummah.

Tehran Arabic on Faqqeh Operation

GF220925 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] According to reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint command of the Islamic forces, during violent fighting last night against the forces of the aggressive 'Aflaqi regime in Faqqeh, the valiant Islamic combatants succeeded in liberating large new areas from the vileness of the infidel Ba'thist regime, inflicting very severe losses on the aggressors' forces in life and equipment.

According to the latest reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, battles still continue in this area. The Islamic combatants have great superiority. We will later announce to you the details of the latest developments.

Tehran Arabic: Further on Faqqeh

GF220946 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0925 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We have just received the following report. According to reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint command of the Islamic forces, during violent fighting last night against the aggressive 'Aflaqi regime in Faqqeh, the valiant Islamic combatants have succeeded in liberating new large areas — in excess of 390 square kilometers — from the vileness of the infidel Ba'thist regime, inflicting severe losses on the aggressors' forces in life and equipment after completely destroying several regiments.

Latest Khatam ol-Anbiya' reports add that violent battles still continue, and that the Islamic combatants have great superiority. We will announce to you the latest developments and details later. Verily victory is from God and conquest is near. [Koranic verse]

New Successes in Fakkeh Area

GF220957 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0938 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Forces, has announced that, following the desperate moves of the enemy and his great defeats, the Islamic combatants in the operations areas, particularly in Hajj 'Umran, during a violent battle against the forces of the Iraqi regime in the Faqqeh operations sector, succeeded in liberating hundreds of square kilometers and forced the retreating enemy to withdraw from this area. The heroic Islamic combatants succeeded in crushing numerous enemy regiments and destroying them completely. They killed and wounded more than 1500 members of these regiments.

During yesterday's operations they combed the strategic Faqqeh area and the surrounding villages and purged them of the vileness of the enemy elements, which also suffered the destruction of further equipment and scores of tanks, and troop carriers. Also during this operation the heroes of Islam captured equipment and tanks of the Ba'thist enemy.

We will bring to you later the latest details and developments. It is God who gives victory, and conquest is near. [Koranic verse]

Iraqi Areas in Faqqeh 'Liberated'

GF221004 Tehran International Service in Arabic
0948 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Latest reports from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, indicate that the valiant Islamic combatants, within their complete stationing in and control over all the strategic areas and sectors in Faqqeh which they liberated last night, launched a lightning attack this morning against the positions of the 'Aflaqi forces inside Iraqi territory at the other end of the strategic Faqqeh area. Reports add that the Islamic combatants succeeded in liberating scores of square kilometers of Iraqi territory in this area. They raised Islamic banners over them. At this time they are in complete control of all the liberated areas. Victory is granted by Almighty God.

Opposition Paper Critizes U.S. Policy Towards Regime

WA2116530 Paris ARA in Persian 6 May pp 1-2

[Text] In his speech, which was to be considered a rebuttal to Ronald Reagan's threat, Hashemi-Rafsanjani ridiculed comments of the U.S. President regarding the punishment of terrorist-nurturing regimes, such as the Islamic Republic and Syria, in case of sufficient evidence about the role of these countries in inciting and encouraging terrorism. At the same time, Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated that if Mr Reagan dares to try to attack Iran, they will show him what real terrorism means.

Ronald Reagan's remarks certainly had called for such a response. But it is quite unfortunate that the president of the greatest and the most powerful country in the world should still need evidence and documents to prove the connection of the Islamic Republic and Syria with the international network of terrorism. What more proof is needed other than the fact that during the past six years, in all of the terrorist acts perpetrated against American citizens throughout the Islamic world, the ayatollah has somehow or other been involved in all of them? Is it not a fact that ever since the day Ruhollah Khomeyni came to power, the amount of humiliation brought upon the United States has indeed been unprecedented in the 210-year history of this country?

What kind of documents and evidence does Mr Reagan need to prove that the Islamic Republic has been involved in acts of terrorism? What further proof does Mr Reagan need when Ayatollah Khomeyni in Tehran places a turban of ayatollahship on the head of Lebanon's terrorist godfather Shaykh Muhammad Fadhlallah who has been clearly declared by the CIA to have been responsible for the explosion of the Marines' headquarters in Lebanon and for the TWA hijacking?

The Islamic Republic has every right to call the United States a "snow lion"; for during the past seven years, the leaders of this regime, who came to power with the help of the United States, have done to this "snow lion" whatever they wished; and they have heard a single roar against them. All preliminaries about the U.S. attack on Libya got under way over the killing of one American citizen on the *Achille Lauro*. But it is a simple arithmetic that the ayatollah's followers have been involved in the killing of 650 U.S. citizens and the wounding of hundreds of them as well as the humiliation of a superpower that deep in its heart still has not

lost its infatuation with the ayatollah. And it is for this very reason that the United States is still hoping to utilize the services of this naughty old man.

Past experiences have shown that it is not the United States that could seriously confront the ayatollah and his henchmen; rather, it was the Russians who reacted to the ayatollah's slap with such a severe blow that this mullah of Jamaran [Khomeyni] would never again dare to fool around with the northern bear!

Our readers remember that only a few months ago, when the henchmen of the Islamic Republic in Lebanon kidnapped four Russian diplomats and killed one of them three days later, Soviet agents in Lebanon quietly kidnapped three or four of close relatives of Khomeyni's unofficial representative in Lebanon, Shaykh Muhammad Fadhlallah, including the nephew of Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin, the Hezbollah spokesman. Later, they beheaded the nephew of Hezbollah spokesman in the Soviet Embassy compound and sent his head to his uncle with a message that if the hostages were not released within a few hours, they would kill all the relatives of Shaykh Fadhlallah one by one. Two hours later, the Russian hostages were released without Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's resorting to any threatening remarks in his Friday sermon, and without Khomeyni's representative in Lebanon having uttered one word!

If today, even the Friday imam of a small town like Natanz can still shout "The United States cannot do a damn thing", it is because everyone in the Islamic Republic knows well that the infatuation of the CIA and Pentagon with turbans and clergy is one of those infatuations that cannot be given up easily -- no matter how much the beloved plays hard to get!